

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1661

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC

SUBJECT: 61ST ECOSOC: ITEM 4, REGIONAL COOPERATION

REF.: GENEVA 6084

1. SEVERAL INFORMAL CONTACT SESSIONS HAVE BEEN HELD ON THE RESOLUTION ON REGIONAL COOPERATION REPORTED IN REFTEL. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF NIGERIA, AS FLOOR MANAGER OF THE RESOLUTION FOR THE G-77, HAS CHAIRED THE MEETINGS. OTHERS ATTENDING HAVE BEEN THE EC-9 COORDINATOR (DUTCH), THE JAPANESE AND REPS OF MEXICO AND LESS FREQUENTLY THAN THE REST, BRAZIL. AS A RESULT OF THE MEETINGS, A REVISION OF THE DRAFT WAS PUBLISHED AUGUST 3 (E/L 1731/REV 1). SUBSEQUENT TO THAT, CONTINUED CONSULTATIONS RESULTED IN FURTHER AMENDMENTS. THE TEXT PRESENTLY BEFORE THE CONTACT GROUP IS QUOTED BELOW. CONSULTATIONS ARE TO CONTINUE AUGUST 4, AND A DECISION MUST BE TAKEN ON THE DRAFT ON AUGUST 5. THE DELEGATION WILL CONTINUE TO URGE IMPROVEMENTS, AS PER INSTRUCTION CABLES, AND WILL REPORT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. HOWEVER, TEXT IS LIKELY TO REMAIN ESSENTIALLY AS REPORTED HERE. THE WILL OF THE EC-9 SPOKESMAN TO PRESS FURTHER IS VISIBLY WANING AS THIS SESSION MOVES TOWARDS ITS CLOSE.

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2. BEGIN TEXT

REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

REVISED DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY NIGERIA
ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77

STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR
REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

RECALLING ITS MANY RESOLUTIONS AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE DECENTRALIZATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
ACTIVITIES AND THE STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS,
INCLUDING GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 1709 (XVI) OF 19 DECEMBER
1961 AND 1823 (XVII) OF 18 DECEMBER 1962 AND COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS
793 (XXX) OF 3 AUGUST 1960, 1442 (XLVII) OF 31 JULY 1969, 1896
(LVII) OF 1 AUGUST 1974 AND 1952 (LIX) OF
23 JULY 1975, AND 1756(LIV),

NOTING THAT SLOW BUT STEADY PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE
DECENTRALIZATION OF THE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES BY THE ARRANGEMENTS
MADE BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS
TO BE EXECUTING AGENCIES OF SUB-REGIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTER-
REGIONAL PROJECTS UNDER CONDITIONS INDICATED IN THE COUNCIL'S
RESOLUTIONS 1896 (LVII) AND 1952 (LIX),

NOTING WITH APPRECIATION THE REPORTS, AND THE COMMENTS THEREON,
OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT ON THE REGIONAL STRUCTURES OF THE
UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND ON THE DECENTRALIZATION OF UNITED
NATIONS ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED ACTIVITIES AND THE
STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS AND OF THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL ON REGIONAL STRUCTURES.

NOTING FURTHER THE PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS UNDER DISCUSSION
IN THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN ITS CONSIDERATION
IN PARTICULAR OF STRUCTURES FOR REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL CO-
OPERATION,
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NOTING THAT THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS HAVE BEEN ADAPTING THEIR
WORK PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES, IN PARTICULAR, TO CONFORM TO THE
DECISIONS OF THE SIXTH AND SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY AS WELL AS THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF
STATES,

RECOGNIZING, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS AND

CONDIDITONS OF EACH REGION, THAT THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, WITH THEIR EXPERIENCE IN PROMOTING REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL CO-OPERATION, ARE THE APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS TO ACT AS CENTRES FOR THE FORMULATION, CO-ORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMMES FOR THE PROMOTION ALSO OF INTER-REGIONAL CO-OPERATION, ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO THE PROGRAMME OF ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE REGIONS,

APPRECIATING THAT, AS INDICATED IN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO CO-ORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSIONS IN THIS FIELD AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND OF SUCH UNITED NATIONS BODIES AS THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT, THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION, THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME AND THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, AND THOSE OF ALL THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES;

1. REAFFIRMS THAT THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL CIRCUMSTANCES, SHOULD BE ENABLED FULLY TO PLAY THEIR ROLE AS THE MAIN GENERAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE REGIONS, AND THAT THEY SHOULD EXERCISE TEAM LEADERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR CO-ORDINATION AND CO-OPERATION AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL WITH THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AND OTHER REGIONAL OFFICES;

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2. REQUESTS THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UN SYSTEM, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS AND CONDITIONS OF EACH REGION AND TO THE OUTCOME OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, TO CONSIDER, INTER ALIA:

(A) THE DESIGNATION OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS AS TEAM LEADERS WITH RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF INTER-SECTORAL PROGRAMS AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL;

(B) THE DESIGNATION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2866 (XXV) AND COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1896 (LVII), OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS AS EXECUTING AGENCIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR FUTURE UNITED NATIONS INTER-SECTORAL SUB-REGIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL OPERATIONAL PROJECTS AND THE INCLUSION OF THE COMMISSIONS IN THE LIST OF EXECUTING AGENCIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH PROJECTS;

(C) THE DELEGATION IN FULL OF THE EXECUTING AGENCY FUNCTIONS TO THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS OF EXISTING INTER-SECTORAL REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 1896 (LVII) AND 1952 (LIX);

(D) THE ORGANIZATION BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, ON A REGULAR BASIS, OF MEETINGS WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING THE CO-ORDINATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THEIR RESPECTIVE REGIONS;

(E) ARRANGEMENTS FOR ENSURING THAT REGIONAL VIEWS ARE DULY
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REFLECTED IN THE DEBATES IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;

3. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO MAKE THE NECESSARY PROVISIONS IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS TO CARRY OUT THEIR ACTIVITIES EFFECTIVELY, AND TO ARRANGE FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF THESE COMMISSIONS TO BE PRESENT DURING THE CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGETS IN RESPECT OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS;

4. RECOMMENDS, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS AND CONDITIONS OF EACH REGION, THAT THE EXECUTIVE HEADS OF SUCH GLOBAL ORGANIZATIONS AS THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT, THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION, THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME AND THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AND OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES SHOULD INTENSIFY THEIR CO-OPERATION WITH THE SECRETARIATS OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS WITH A VIEW TO MAKING THEM CENTRES FOR THE FORMULATION, CO-ORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMMES FOR THE PROMOTION OF CO-OPERATION AMONG COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF THE RESPECTIVE

COMMISSIONS;

5. REQUESTS THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS CONCERNED, AT THE INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL, TO WORK OUT A PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES FOR

THEIR RESPECTIVE REGIONS IN THE FIELD OF CO-OPERATION AMONG
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, BEARING IN MIND UNCTAD 92(IV) AND THE
CONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG THE DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES TO BE HELD IN ARGENTINA IN 1977;

6. REQUESTS FURTHER THE SGY TO SUBMIT TO THE COUNCIL FOR
ITS CONSIDERATION AT ITS SIXTY-THIRD SESSION, TAKING
FULL ACCOUNT OF THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS INVOLVED,
PROPOSALS FOR STRENGTHENING THE SECRETARIATS OF THE
REGIONAL COMMISSIONS TO ENABLE THEM TO PROMOTE EFFECTIVELY
COOPERATION AMONG COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF THE RESPECTIVE
COMMISSIONS AT THE REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL LEVELS,
INCLUDING ALSO COOPERATION BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. CATTO

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